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## NEWS AND COMMENTS

The thirteenth annual meeting of the Mississippi valley historical association, held at Greencastle, Indiana, April 29-May 1, brought forth a record-breaking attendance and was in every way one of the best meetings in the history of the association. The local committee, headed by Mr. W. W. Sweet of DePauw university, left nothing undone that would add to the comfort and pleasure of the guests, and these efforts were greatly appreciated. The visit to Purdue university at LaFayette and the Tippecanoe battleground, which took place on Saturday, was one of the highly enjoyable features of the meeting.

The program, carried out as planned with but one exception, was of a quality to reflect great credit on the committee which planned it, on those who took part, and on the association at large. At the business session Chauncey S. Boucher of Ohio state university was chosen president; Guy Stanton Ford of the University of Minnesota, William W. Sweet of DePauw, and Miss Margaret Mitchell of the University of Oklahoma were elected members of the executive committee for three years, Thomas M. Marshall being chosen to serve on the same committee for one year. J. H. R. Moore of Indianapolis and Miss Bessie Pierce of Iowa City were made members of the executive committee of the teachers' section for three years. The new members chosen to serve on the board of editors for three years were: Clarence E. Carter, Miami university; Arthur C. Cole, University of Illinois; and Lester B. Shippee, University of Minnesota. Mrs. Clara S. Paine and Clarence W. Alvord were continued in their respective positions as secretary-treasurer of the association and managing editor of the REVIEW.

The managing editor takes this opportunity to announce that he has resigned his position as professor in history at the University of Illinois and editor-in-chief of the publications of the Illinois state historical library to accept a professorship in history at the University of Minnesota. After September 1, therefore, all communications to the editorial office should be addressed to Clarence W. Alvord, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Among recent books is one entitled *The society of free states*. This is a collection of papers published in the *New York Evening Post*. In this volume the author, Dwight W. Morrow, attempts to give a setting to the

proposed league of nations by a study of some former projects for world peace and ventures in international coöperation (New York: Harper brothers, 1919. \$1.25).

Of perhaps more interest to the financier than to the historian is the little volume written by Jacob H. Hollander, entitled *War borrowing* (New York: Macmillan company, 1919. \$1.50 net). This is a study of treasury certificates of indebtedness to the United States.

The Bureau of American ethnology Bulletin number 65 contains valuable information on archaeological explorations in northeastern Arizona carried on by Alfred Vincent Kidder and Samuel J. Guernsey. The book is illustrated with interesting diagrams and photographs.

Mr. Hill Peebles Wilson's tart biography of *John Brown, soldier of fortune* has apparently found a wide market, as the Cornhill publishing company has now brought out a new edition (Boston, 1918. 450 p. \$2.50). Two interesting photographs of John Brown are the chief addition to the original publication. For a review of the work the reader is referred to the MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL REVIEW, volume 1, page 320.

Charles Scribner's sons have issued a library edition in one volume of Henry Cabot Lodge's well known *Story of the revolution* (450 p. \$2.50 net). It is in very convenient form and will doubtless find a large number of readers.

The *Hispanic American historical review* for February, 1920, contains an article of interest in light of present day discussions of the Monroe doctrine. It is entitled "Spanish American appreciations of the Monroe doctrine," and is an account of the reactions produced in Hispanic America by the application of the Monroe doctrine to the boundary dispute between Venezuela and Great Britain.

Among recent works of especial interest to students of Spanish-American history is a new work entitled *Biblioteca de historia Hispano-Americana*, Madrid, 1920. This work has been prepared under the auspices of his majesty, King Alphonzo XIII.

The *Journal of negro history* for January, 1920, contains an article entitled "The negro migration to Canada after the passing of the fugitive slave act." The author, Fred Landon, describes in detail the workings of the underground railroad. He states that the negro population of the north increased by nearly 30,000 in the decade after 1850 and that the gain was chiefly in the states of Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois.

An article in the April, 1920, number of the *Journal of negro history*

presents some interesting statistics on the growth of the negro public schools in the state of Missouri. In 1915 Missouri stood in the lead of the ex-slave states in the provisions which it had made for the education of negro children, and only the District of Columbia had more money invested in public school property for negroes. The author of this well-written article is Henry Sullivan Williams.

At its recent session, the Virginia legislature appropriated \$40,000 for a building for history and archives.

Mr. D. R. Anderson leaves the chair of history at Richmond college at the end of the session, to become president of Randolph-Macon college for women, at Lynchburg, Virginia. S. J. Mitchell, president of Delaware state college will succeed Mr. Anderson.

A recent number of the *Illinois studies in the social sciences* is "The history of cumulative voting and minority representation in Illinois, 1870-1919," by Blaine F. Moore of the University of Kansas. It contains an introduction by James W. Garner. The author in a concise and scholarly way presents the workings of the cumulative system and shows that this method in practically all cases secures minority representation in the legislative district of the state, he has come to the conclusion that a much smaller waste of votes and small percentage of non-representation exists under this system than prevails under the ordinary majority system.

Mr. Beverly W. Bond has been on a leave of absence from Purdue university in order to lecture at the University of Wisconsin for the second semester, 1919-1920. He is to teach at Johns Hopkins in the summer term, 1920.

The leading article in the *Minnesota history bulletin* for November, 1919, is entitled "Benjamin Densmore's journal of an expedition on the frontier." This is an interesting account of an expedition made in 1857 to Otter Tail lake, then on the extreme front of settlement in Minnesota.

Louis Bernard Schmidt has given an excellent account of the "Internal grain trade of the United States during the decade of 1850-1860," in the *Iowa journal of history and politics*, January, 1920. This will be of special interest to the student of the economic life of the Mississippi valley.

Two promotions are reported in the department of history at Iowa state college: Louis B. Schmidt has been made professor of history and Albert B. Moore has been promoted from instructor in history to assistant professor.

The State historical society of Missouri held its sixteenth annual meeting at Columbia, March 25. The speakers announced for the day were A. Ross Hill, president of the University of Missouri; Walter S. Dickey of Kansas City, president of the Missouri river navigation company; N. T. Gentry of Columbia; David R. Francis of St. Louis, United States ambassador to Russia; and G. Lechartier of Paris, France, Washington correspondent of *Le matin*, Paris. In the evening a Missouri pageant was held in commemoration of the centennial of the passage of the Missouri enabling act in March, 1820. The story of the state was presented in five historical episodes by four hundred persons.

South Dakota has just issued a bulletin under the auspices of the governor, Peter Norbeck, and the adjutant general, W. A. Morris, entitled "Record of service of the 147th field artillery in France."

The University of California published in its *American archaeology and ethnology reports* for November, 1919, a calendar of the Indians north of Mexico by Leona Cope.